Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CU-02 IO-13 EB-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /083 W

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TOHRUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8944

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO

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BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

EO 11652GDS

TAGS: CSCE, PGOV, PL

SUBJ: CSCE IMPLEMENTATION DEMARCHE

REF: A. STATE 135914, B. WARSAW 3105

1. CSCE-RELATED EXCHANGES HAVE PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN EMBASSY RELATIONS WITH THE POLISH AUTHORITIES SINCE THE CSCE FINAL ACT WAS SIGNED. WE HAVE RECEIVED SOME SATISFACTION IN THE ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL AREAS, BUT OUR APPROACHES ON DIVIDED FAMILIES HAVE MET WITH LITTLE SUCCESS SO FAR. GREAT PUBLIC INTEREST IN POLAND HAS FORCED THE POLISH AUTHORITIES TO COUNTERATTACK VIGOROUSLY IN THE PUBLIC MEDIA AGAINST WESTERN, AND CONFIDENTIAL

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VOCIFEROUS DOMESTIC, CRITICISM OF THEIR PERFORMANCE ON BASKET III ISSUES. THE QUALITY AND EXTEND OF THE COUNTER-ATTACK SHOWS THAT THE GOP IS SENSITIVE TO DOMESTIC CRITICISM OF ITS PERFORMANCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

2. ANOTHER STRONG IMPLEMENTATION DEMARCHE WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY IMPRESS THE ESSENTIALLY PRAGMATIC GOP HIERARCHY.

THIS MIGHT BEST BE DONE IN SEPTEMBER. MANY OF THE MOST INFLUENTIAL POLISH LEADERS AND THEIR AIDES HAVE ALREADY LEFT WARSAW FOR THEIR SUMMER VACATIONS. AUGUST ESPECIALLY IS A MONTH WHEN THE POLISH GOVERNMENT WILL BE HEADED BY ITS LEAST SENIOR OFFICIALS. WE RECOMMEND BELOW SEVERAL SPECIFIC POINTS WHICH SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN OUR NEXT DEMARCHE.

- 3. FREEDOWN OF MOVEMENT AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION: THE GREATEST SINGLE PROBLEM WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED IN DISCUSSIONS OF FAMILY REUNIFICATION HAS BEEN THE NARROW DEFINITION OF "FAMILY" USED BY THE GOP. OUR IMMIGRATION LAW, WITH ITS SYSTEM OF PREFERENCE CATEGORIES, ADMITTEDLY DISCRIMINATES ON THE BASIS OF THE IMMEDIACY OF KINSHIP. NEVERTHELESS, WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE POLISH CONTENTION THAT ADULT SIBLINGS AND MARRIED CHILDREN OF U.S. CITIZENS AND PERMANENT RESIDENTS ARE NOT FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE SENSE INTENDED BY THE FINAL ACT. BECAUSE OUR LAW INCLUDES SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR THE IMMIGRATION OF THESE PEOPLE, BECAUSE THE FINAL ACT CONTAINS NO DEFINITION OF THE TERM "FAMILY", AND BECAUSE WE BELIEVE ONLY THE PERSONS CONCERNED CAN DEFINE THE STRENGTH OF THEIR BONDS OF KINSHIP, WE SHOULD REJECT THE VERY IDEA OF ANY LIMITATIONS BY DEFINITION.
- 4. NINETY-NINE PERCENT OF OUR REGISTRANTS FOR U.S. IMMIGRANT VISAS ARE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS. THE U.S. MUST AVOID TO MUCH CONCONFIDENTIAL.

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CENTRATION ON INDIVIDUAL DIVIDED-FAMILY CASES INVOLVING HARDSHIP. IF WE INDICATE SATISFACTION WITH THE SLOW, BUT STEADY, RESOLUTION OF A FEW SELECTED CASES, WE WILL BE TACITLY ACCEPTING THE DRAMATIC DECLINE IN POLISH EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES OVER THE LAST DECADE AND A HALF. FY 1976, THE YEAR OF HELSINKI, WAS THE WORST YEAR FOR POLISH EMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES SINCE 1957. THE SLIGHT INCREASE FOR THE YEAR JUST ENDING SCARCELY WARRANTS ACKNOWLEDGMENT. THE MAJORITY OF OUR APPLICANTS MAY ACCEPT THEIR PASSPORT DENIALS QUIETELY AND THEIR CASES MAY NEVER BE INCLUDED ON ANY OF OUR LISTS OF CASES SELECTED FOR SPECIAL EMPHASIS, BUT WE SHOULD NOT NEGLECT THEIR CAUSE.

4. TOURISM: WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE APROBLEM IN THIS AREA, WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO MEET EFFECTIVELY CRITICISM FROM EASTERN EUROPE OF U.S. VISA REQUIREMENTS. WE HAVE

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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BELGRADE ALSO FOR USDEL CSCE

PLENTY OF AMMUNITION:

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y FOR GARBLED IN PARA SEVEN

A. THE NEW POLISH PASSPORT REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS INTIMIDATE FOREIGN VISITORS (THOSE STAYING IN PRIVATE HOMES MUST REGISTER WITH THE POLICE);

B. THE COMPULSORY CURRENCY-EXCHANGE REQUIREMENTS CONFUSE AND DISCOURAGE PROSPECTIVE TRAVELERS; AND,

C. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE POLISH GOVERNMENT RARELY ALLOWS ALL MEMBERS OF POLISH NUCLEAR FAMILIES TO TRAVEL ABROAD TOGETHER. MOREOVER, THOSE ALLOWED OUT OF POLAND HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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GREAT DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING FOREIGN CURRENCY TO FINANCE THEIR STAYS ABROAD.

5. SINCE SUBMISSION OF THE LATEST SNAPSHOT REPORT ON

CSCE IMPLEMENTATION (REF B), WE HAVE NOTED A DECLINE IN POLISH PERFORMANCE IN THE BASKET II AREA. WE SHOULD REGISTER OUR DISSATISFACTION WITH THE GROWING DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING FOREIGN-TRADE AND OTHER STATISTICS ON THE POLISH ECONOMY. THE MONTHLY STATISTICAL BULLETIN HAS ELIMINATED TWO IMPORTANT TABLES WHICH PROVIDED DATA IN VALUE TERMS FOR POLAND'S TRADE WITH INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES AND FOR TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS BY MAJOR COMMODITY GROUPING. THE MONTHLY BULLETING HAS ALSO DROPPED IMPORTANT TABLES GIVING DATA ON AVERAGE WAGE LEVELS AND ON SAVINGS AND CREDITS. THE GOP HAS NOT INDICATED WHETHER ANY OF THIS INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS, BUT EVEN THIS WOULD REPRESENT A STEP BACK FROM PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE.

6. THE MONTHLY BULLETIN IS ALSO BEING PUBLISHED AT LEAST ONE MONTH LATER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. MOREOVER, THE FOREIGN TRADE YEARBOOK FOR 1976 IS NOT EXPECTED TO APPEAR UNTIL SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER, 1977, SEVERAL MONTHS PAST ITS NORMAL PUBLICATION DATE.

7. WE SHOULD REQUEST THE POLES TO RETURN TO THEIR RELATIVELY GOOD RECORD ON PUBLISHING ECONOMIC INFORMATION.
WE SHOULD ALSO REQUEST THAT THE GOP UNDERTAKE TO PROVIDE
AT LEAST QUARTERLY INFORMATION GIVING THE ZLOTY VALUE FOR
IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE 30 MAJOR ITEMS FOR WHICH
VOLUME DATE ONLY ARE PROVIDED. GOP OFFICIALS HAVE ON
NUMEROUS OCCASIONS CITED ADVERSE PRICE TRENDS ON THEIR
EXPORTS AS A REASON FOR UNDERFULFILLMENT OF EXPORTS
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TARGETS; THIS IMPORTANT FACTOR CAN BE ASSESSED PROPERLY ONLY IF COMMODITY IMPORT AND EXPORT DATA ARE GIVEN IN BOTH VALUE AND VOLUME TERMS.

7. THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT ENCOURAGES "IMPROVEMENT OF THE DISSEMINATION...OF NEWSPAPERS AND PRINTED PUBLICATIONS" AND "IMPROVEMENT OF ACCESS BY THE PUBLIC" TO THESE PUBLICATIONS. DESPITE THE INCREASED NUMBER OF WESTERN TOURISTS AND THE MANY POLISH CITIZENS WHO READ ENGLISH AND WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN WESTERN PERIODICALS, THE QUANTITY CIRCULATED COMMERCIALLY IN POLAND IS NOT ADEQUATE, EVEN FOR FOREIGN VISITORS. DURING THE WORLD PEACE CONFERENCE IN WARSAW MAY 5-7, EMBASSY OFFICERS OBSERVED A SHARP INCREASE IN THE AVAILABILITY OF WESTERN NEWSPAPERS ON SALE AT SELECTED HOTELS FOR PURCHASE BY THE DELEGATES. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONGRESS, HOWEVER, THE NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS DECLINED. NOW, WESTERN NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES ARE AGAIN DIFFICULT TO FIND EVEN IN THE LARGE HOTELS. OVER 30,000 AMERICANS

VISIT POLAND EACH YEAR. MANY MORE WEST EUROPEAN TOURISTS ALSO COME TO THIS COUNTRY. BOTH THIS INCREASED TOURISM AND THE POLISH PUBLIC'S DEMAND FOR SUCH PUBLICATIONS ENCOURAGE A SUBSTANTIAL EXPANSION IN THE CIRCULATION OF AMERICAN PERIODICALS, ESPECIALLY THE PARIS HERALD TRIBUNE, TIME, AND NEWSWEEK. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THE HARD-CURRENCY REQUIREMENT PREVENTS AN INCREASE IN THE IMPORTATION OF THESE PUBLICATIONS. IN OUR VIEW, THE IMPORTATION OF MORE WESTERN PUBLICATIONS, IN A GREATER NUMBER OF COPIES, IS FACILITATED FINANCIALLY BY THE GROWTH OF TOURISM, AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF HARD CURRENCY FOR POLAND. PROVIDING SUCH SERVICES AS ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWS PUBLICATIONS, INDEED, COULD HELP FURTHER PROMOTE AND EXPAND THE POLISH TOURIST INDUSTRY.

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